

Columbia River Treaty REVIEW

Spring 2013 Open House Comment Form

Open House Date: **April 10, 2013 (Spokane)**

Was this Open House helpful? **Yes**

How can we improve? **Better communication and prior public notice of these open houses. (Format, level of detail, language, length of presentations were all appropriate.)**

Treaty Review Comments

1. **I want the Treaty Review team to consider these issues:**

- a. **While** it is encouraging that the U.S. Entity has adopted the Ecosystem Function as a primary driver for Treaty evaluation, it is also imperative that the process go further to **embrace and encourage comprehensive restoration of the Columbia River system.**
- b. I wish the US Entity would do additional evaluation of possible **increased use of non-structural flood control** to reduce reliance on reservoirs and improve the ecological function of flood plains.
- c. I question whether 5 representatives of 15 Native American tribes are enough on the Sovereign Review Team. And I wonder just **how complete has been the opportunity for tribes to participate in the US Entity's process.**
- d. Further, I would hope that part of the U.S. and international conversation about Treaty changes would include consideration of this opportunity to **redress historic injustice done to Tribes and First Nations as well as damage to the River and its fisheries.**

2. **Is there any key information we missed in our Iteration 2 assessment? Any gaps in our analysis?**

See 1. c. and d. above. The 1964 Treaty completely subordinated the rights and resources of native peoples. Very few of the critical losses to native peoples have been compensated. This has not been addressed. Although it has been rightly noted that as we move into the future Tribes should be included as part of the Treaty governance and implementation process and that Tribes should receive equitable benefits in the River's management, **neither equitable compensation nor just redress of past ecological (and cultural) damage to tribes has been addressed.**

3. **As we move into the third phase of analysis, Iteration 3, what are your priorities for our attention?**

- a. **Full participation of the Tribes**, and some attempt to **redress past "injuries"** to them, especially those directly related to the 1964 Treaty provisions.
- b. Full and complete **Eco-system assessments weighted at least as heavily as those of hydropower and flood control.**

c. It is critical that there be **wider public education and dissemination of information about the Treaty and the Treaty process.**

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